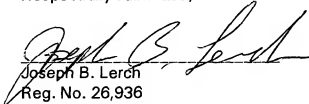


REMARKS

This is a response to a restriction requirement dated May 15, 2003 in the above-identified patent application. In that requirement, the examiner identified three inventions in the claims which are grouped into three claim groups and required election of one of the groups for prosecution in this patent application. In this response, the applicants have elected Claim Group I. Early examination on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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